

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SANTO 00825 221821Z
ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00
OES-06 AF-08 L-03 PRS-01 /049 W
-----221837 001495 /43
R 221722Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9748
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 825

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, DR
SUBJ: DOMINICANS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN AVOIDING SPREAD OF
COFFEE DISEASE THROUGH USED BAGS IMPORTED FROM US

1. DR JOSE ANTONIO MARTINEZ, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF DOMINICAN EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION AND A PROMINENT COFFEE GROWER, HAS ASKED EMBOFFS WHAT ASSISTANCE USG MIGHT RENDER IN KEEPING USED BAGS BEARING A COFFEE DISEASE FROM BEING RE-EXPORTED TO THE DR FROM THE US. LAST WEEK THERE WERE ALSO 10 OR 12 DOMINICAN NEWS ARTICLES, INCLUDING AN EDITORIAL IN EL CARIBE, ON THE SAME SUBJECT. ACCORDING TO MARTINEZ, COFFEE IMPORTED FROM AFRICAN COUNTRIES SUCH AS UGANDA AND BURUNDI ARRIVES IN THE US IN HENNEQUIN (SISAL) BAGS WHICH HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN TURNING UP IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FOR LOCAL USE IN BAGGING EITHER COFFEE OR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES. IT IS CLAIMED THAT SOME OF THE BAGS CONTAIN SPORES OF A SERIOUS COFFEE TREE DISEASE WHOSE SCIENTIFIC NAME IS HEMILEA VASTRATIX RPT HEMILEA VASTRATIX. THE DISEASE IS APPRANTELY A RUINOUS FUNGUS WHOSE SPORES REMAIN ALIVE FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME.

2. AS PART OF LAST WEEK'S CAMPAIGN EL CARIBE PUBLISHED A PHOTOGRAPH OF A COFFEE BAG ON WHICH HAD BEEN STENCILED UGANDA, ROBUSTA, NEW YORK.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SANTO 00825 221821Z

3. WHEN EMBOFFS INQUIRED WHETHER GODR COULD NOT RPT NOT TAKE PROPER ACTION TO KEEP THE USED BAGS OUT OF THE COUNTRY, MARTINEZ REPLIED THAT THIS WAS POSSIBLE IN THEORY BUT PROBABLY WOULD NOT RPT NOT HAPPEN IN REALITY. HE SAID DOMINICAN CONSULS IN THE US RECEIVED INCOME FROM PROCESSING CONSULAR INVOICES, AND THAT THEY WERE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES WHO COULD NOT RPT NOT BE RELIED UPON TO CATCH

PROHIBITED ITEMS. HE ALSO PROFESSED TO HAVE LITTLE
FAITH IN DOMINICAN CUSTOMS.

4. EMBOFFS AGREED TO ASK WASHINGTON ABOUT SITUATION.
PLEASE ADVISE.
HURWITCH

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COFFEE, REEXPORTS, DISEASES, FOOD & DRUG REGULATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANTO00825
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770061-0728
Format: TEL
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770221/aaaaasiv.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d8ea60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AGRE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3264240
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DOMINICANS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN AVOIDING SPREAD OF COFFEE DISEASE THROUGH USED BAGS IMPORTED FROM US
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, DR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbcr//SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d8ea60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009